



# COMMUNITY NEWS

**District 1**

Vol 20. Scottsdale Police Department District 1 3700 N. 75<sup>th</sup> Street. Scottsdale, AZ 85251 (480) 312-2716 April 2006



## ATM Safety

Over the last 20 years, companies nationwide have increased their production as a result of technology. The consumers have benefited from these advancements, and it gives us nearly instantaneous access to whatever we want. ATMs (Automated Teller Machines) have been located in almost every grocery store, convenience store, and bank facilities. Although convenience is very important when deciding where to access your bank account, it should not be the most important factor. Safety should be the first thing to consider when choosing a location to withdraw or deposit your money. Here are some tips to increase your safety at the ATM:

- Avoid isolated locations, especially at night.
- Use ATMs inside an open business whenever possible.
- Be aware of your surroundings and trust your gut feeling. Look around for suspicious persons or vehicles, and avoid that location if either are present.
- Avoid ATMs at night with poor lighting.

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## Message from Commander Sean Duggan

Our third operational goal, *develop safer neighborhoods through community partnerships and participation*, is the cornerstone of our system of policing. Preventing crime and disorder is the responsibility of all citizens. As a police service, we must elicit the willing participation of our communities to assist us in achieving this goal.

Our community-based policing efforts are designed to provide a holistic approach to addressing issues and concerns expressed by our constituents. By combining community partnerships and participation with more traditional policing, we are able to successfully develop and maintain safe communities.

Commander Sean Duggan  
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## Traffic Safety Zone

District 1 personnel will provide increased traffic enforcement in the area of Scottsdale Road and McDowell Road. Please drive carefully.

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- Take a friend with you to complete your transaction.
- Be prepared to complete your transaction by having your card ready.
- When entering your personal identification number (PIN), try to keep the number out of view of bystanders.
- Do not withdraw large amounts of cash at one time.
- Secure your money immediately and leave the area.
- Do not allow yourself to be blocked in at a drive up ATM. Let the vehicle in front of you pull far enough away.
- Report suspicious activity immediately to your local police department.
- Always remember, money can be replaced, but people cannot.



Commonly known as *choke out*, *fainting game*, *flat liner*, *pass-out game*, or *space cowboy*, a new “game” has caught the attention of parents and school officials. The choking game is intended to cause asphyxiation by restricting blood flow and/or oxygen to the brain. Children can use their hands, a cloth or any other material to cause this restriction. The restriction of blood or oxygen causes “tingling” or what some children call a “high” in their body. When the pressure or restriction on the neck is released, they get a second “high” due to the increased blood/oxygen flow. The high causes permanent brain cell death, and some coroners are now reviewing past cases of teen suicide to see if they were the result of this deadly game. The February 2006 edition of Reader’s Digest reported over 1,000 deaths have been related to the choking game.

(Choking Game Continued)

The choking game normally involves multiple children restricting each other’s air supply. In some instances, children play it alone, and if they go unconscious, there is no one around to release the pressure on the neck increasing the chances of a fatal end to the game.

Here are some possible warning signs of this game:

- Bruising or red marks around the neck
- Bed sheets, belts, ties, or ropes tied in knots
- Wear marks on furniture from previous incidents
- Headaches, flushed face, bloodshot eyes
- Disorientation after being alone
- Locked doors
- Changes in attitude

Children often do not see the risks involved. The best prevention is to talk to your children about the dangers and consequences of the game.

## Calendar of Events

### **28<sup>th</sup> Annual Scottsdale Culinary Festival**

April 18 – 23

Various locations in Scottsdale

For more information call (480) 945-7193 or

Visit [www.scottsdaleculinaryfestival.org](http://www.scottsdaleculinaryfestival.org)

## **The Scottsdale Police Department Wants You!**



The Scottsdale Police Department has excellent job opportunities in the following fields:

Police Officer, Police Aide, Communications, Detention Officers, Crime Lab, Records, and Crime Scene Specialists. Visit our website at [www.Scottsdalepd.com](http://www.Scottsdalepd.com) or contact Officer Greg Carlin at 480-312-5384, or e-mail: [gcarlin@scottsdaleaz.gov](mailto:gcarlin@scottsdaleaz.gov).